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Greece

Citrus

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Report Highlights:

Estimates for tangerine and lemon production for 2000 were revised downwards to 80,000 mt and 136,000 mt respectively due to more accurate reporting figures.

Orange production remains unchanged at 900,000 MT. For this year, about 300,000 MT of oranges are expected to be processed resulting in 16,300 MT of orange juice concentrate. Lemon juice production is estimated at 850 MT from 14,000 MT of lemons.

Includes PSD changes: Yes

Includes Trade Matrix: No

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SECTION I

SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

Narrative

The Ministry of Agriculture recently revised its 1999 production estimate for lemons to 125,000 MT from 135,000 MT reported in our AGR-032 of Nov. 15, 2000. No revisions were made on the 1999 orange and tangerine estimates. As for the 2000/01 production, and after more accurate data provided, the tangerine and lemon production estimates were revised downwards to 80,000 and 136,000 MT respectively while the orange production remained unchanged. The weather thus far this season has been favorable with somewhat higher temperatures recorded and the crop maturing a little faster than normal.

M.Y exports for oranges, tangerines and lemons this season through mid March were about 250,000, 33,000 and 22,000 MT respectively as compared to 200,000, 29,000 and 14,000 MT respectively through the same period last year. One fourth of orange and tangerine exports went to EU destinations and the balance to Eastern European countries. Only 10% of lemon exports however, go to the EU since Greek lemons are of poor quality.

Export FOB prices for oranges to EU destinations this season through mid March ranged from \$285 to \$340 per MT packed in 15 kg fiber boxes. Export prices to Eastern European countries during the same period, packed also in fiber boxes, ranged from \$240 to \$290 per MT. The use of wooden boxes (bruce boxes of 20 kgs) has been practically discontinued. Comparable export prices for the 1999/2000 season had ranged between \$230 and \$270 per MT.

The volume of oranges processed for OJC in 2000/01 is estimated to come close to 300,000 MT and produce about 16,300 MT of OJC (65 Brix) since the quality of fruit is one of the best in recent years and yields are high. In 1999/2000 the volume of oranges processed totaled a record of 380,000 MT but due to the poor quality of the fruit (frost damaged) the yields were very low and produced only 16,500 MT of OJC (65 Brix). As regards lemon juice production, the tonnage processed in 1999/2000 was drastically reduced to about 12,000 MT and produced only 730 MT of lemon juice concentrate (40⁰ Brix). This volume reduction was due to poor quality of lemons and high prices demanded, while the EU support price was reduced by 38 percent. It is also indicated at this time that in the 2000/01 season, the tonnage of lemons to be processed will be close to 14,000 MT and produce about 850 MT of lemon concentrate.

The final EU aid that the growers received in 2000/01 for oranges delivered to OJC processing plants amounted to 26 to 27 drs/kg (\$0.070 -\$ 0.073/kg). In addition the processors pay the grower's another 7 to 10 drs/kg (\$0.019-\$0.027/kg) as a result of bargaining between the two parties. These prices in drachmas are virtually the same to those of a year earlier but the dollar value is somewhat lower due to the fluctuation of the exchange rate and the weakening of the Greek drachma. The Greek OJC of 60 Brix converted to 65 Brix is presently sold ex-factory at

about 380-410 drs/kg (\$1.03 to \$1.11/kg) while comparable Brazilian product sells for about 370-400 drs/kg (\$1.00 - \$1.08/kg). Brazilian product price reflects a drop of about 20 percent over that of a year earlier. Actually the Brazilian OJC 65 Brix lands at Rotterdam at \$800/MT. To this price import duties and freight charges have to be added.

Exchange Rates

1999	\$1.00 = 305.85 drachmas
2000	\$1.00 = 365.28 drachmas
2001 (Jan.-Mar.)	\$1.00 = 368.95 drachmas

PS&D Table, Fresh Oranges

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Fresh Oranges				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1999	Preliminary	2000	Forecast	2001
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1999		09/2000		09/2001
Area Planted	38000	37800	0	39250	0	39250
Area Harvested	37200	37000	0	38600	0	38800
Bearing Trees	16550	16500	0	16550	0	16580
Non-Bearing Trees	340	360	0	380	0	350
TOTAL No. Of Trees	16890	16860	0	16930	0	16930
Production	950	1040	0	900	0	950
Imports	1	1	0	1	0	1
TOTAL SUPPLY	951	1041	0	901	0	951
Exports	220	270	0	260	0	270
Fresh Dom. Consumption	441	391	0	341	0	401
Processing	290	380	0	300	0	280
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	951	1041	0	901	0	951

PS&D Table, Juice Orange

PSD Table						
Country	Greece			65	Degrees Brix	
Commodity	Juice, Orange				(MT)	
	Revised	1999	Preliminary	2000	Forecast	2001
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1999		09/2000		09/2001
Deliv. To Processors	290	380	0	300	0	280
Beginning Stocks	44	44	444	3044	0	1844
Production	13400	16500	0	16300	0	14000
Imports	9500	11000	0	8500	0	10000
TOTAL SUPPLY	22944	27544	444	27844	0	25844
Exports	5000	6000	0	6500	0	6000
Domestic Consumption	17500	18500	0	19500	0	19500
Ending Stocks	444	3044	0	1844	0	344
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	22944	27544	0	27844	0	25844

PS&D Table, Fresh Tangerines

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Fresh Tangerines				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1999	Preliminary	2000	Forecast	2001
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1999		09/2000		09/2001
Area Planted	6000	6020	0	6800	0	6800
Area Harvested	5940	5960	0	6400	0	6600
Bearing Trees	2935	2935	0	3100	0	3150
Non-Bearing Trees	35	35	0	50	0	50
TOTAL No. Of Trees	2970	2970	0	3150	0	3200
Production	85	85	0	80	0	90
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	85	85	0	80	0	90
Exports	29	30	0	33	0	35
Fresh Dom. Consumption	52	50	0	43	0	50
Processing	4	5	0	4	0	5
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	85	85	0	80	0	90

PS&D Table, Fresh Lemons

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Fresh Lemons				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1999	Preliminary	2000	Forecast	2001
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1999		09/2000		09/2001
Area Planted	11150	12200	10880	12300	0	12300
Area Harvested	10850	12000	10610	12200	0	12250
Bearing Trees	3720	3900	3640	4000	0	4020
Non-Bearing Trees	100	200	90	170	0	150
TOTAL No. Of Trees	3820	4100	3730	4170	0	4170
Production	135	125	140	136	0	145
Imports	11	11	12	11	0	10
TOTAL SUPPLY	146	136	152	147	0	155
Exports	24	24	30	25	0	30
Fresh Dom. Consumption	100	100	92	108	0	110
Processing	22	12	30	14	0	15
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	146	136	152	147	0	155

PS&D Table, Juice Lemons

PSD Table						
Country	Greece					
Commodity	Juice, Lemon				(MT)	
	Revised	1999	Preliminary	2000	Forecast	2001
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		09/1999		09/2000		09/2001
Deliv. To Processors	22000	12000	30000	14000	0	15000
Beginning Stocks	336	446	36	0	86	0
Production	1320	730	1800	850	0	900
Imports	60	200	50	300	0	300
TOTAL SUPPLY	1716	1376	1886	1150	86	1200
Exports	280	0	300	0	0	0
Domestic Consumption	1400	1376	1500	1150	0	1200
Ending Stocks	36	0	86	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	1716	1376	1886	1150	0	1200